

2019 Annual Water Quality Report

The 2019 Water Quality Report is available. Visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Water to view the report to learn more about the sources and quality of your drinking water.

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UPDATE YOUR LAWN TO A WATER WISE LANDSCAPE



Rebates are available to help cover the cost of upgrading lawns to beautiful, low maintenance, water wise gardens.

Would you like to save money on your water bill and have a beautiful, colorful garden? Take advantage of the City's Smart Landscape Rebate to replace your water-thirsty lawn with water-wise and California native plants.

The rebate covers half the cost of eligible landscaping materials; single-family homes can receive up to \$1,000 and multi-unit residences, businesses, and HOAs up to \$2,000 per irrigation meter on a maximum of two meters. The rebate can be applied to a combination of water-wise plants, mulch, efficient irrigation equipment, laundry to landscape graywater systems, smart irrigation controllers, and more.

All projects must be pre-approved before any work is started, including lawn removal. Rebates are not retroactive and only one rebate will be issued per property. The goal of the program is to demonstrate a significant reduction in irrigation water, therefore irrigation pattern from prior years will be considered in the qualification process. To get started, call (805) 564-5460 or visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/LandscapeRebate.

GET TIPS TO PREPARE YOUR BUSINESS FOR AN EMERGENCY



Call the City's Office of Emergency Services information line for tips on how to prepare your business in the wake of a natural disaster.

August is Business Preparedness Month. Statistics show that more than 30 percent of small businesses that close in the wake of a natural disaster never reopen. They either lose their capital or their margins are so thin that they cannot survive the loss of cash flow while they repair.

No matter who you are or where you are located, whether your business is large or small, manufacturing or service-based, or whether you depend on walk-in traffic or online sales, disasters are the biggest threat to your company's economic vitality. By being prepared, you can help mitigate the damage that your company incurs during most business disruptions. Throughout August, you can get tips from the City's Office of Emergency Services on how to prepare your business for any type of disaster, by calling the information line at (805) 564-5711.

\$150 REBATE

WASH, RINSE, REBATE...

HIGH EFFICIENCY WASHING MACHINE

\$150 REBATE

Let's Save Together
water wise
City of Santa Barbara

SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Rebates

LIBRARY ELIMINATES FINES FOR OVERDUE MATERIALS



The Library will no longer charge fees for overdue materials.

The Library no longer charges overdue fees, following a move by dozens of libraries in California and nationwide.

The City Council recently voted to eliminate overdue fines for library materials. Library Director Jessica Cadiente said the change will increase access for all library users.

“Santa Barbara Public Library’s mission is to best serve its community and provide equitable access to all, and overdue fines were in opposition to this goal,” said Cadiente. “Eliminating fines eliminates barriers to use, and we want everyone to feel confident and welcome to use the Santa Barbara Public Library.”

A replacement fee will be charged if materials are missing 30 days past the due date, but the fee can be waived if the item is returned in good condition before 60 days. Currently, items that do not have other patrons waiting to use them are automatically renewed up to five times. Patrons will receive updates at a registered email address, or via text message.

Fine revenue represented less than 1% of the total Library budget, and the amount of staff time required to collect fines exceeds revenue.

Libraries across California and the country are eliminating overdue fines, including most Bay Area libraries, San Diego Public Library, and LA County Public Library. In the Black Gold Consortium, to which Santa Barbara Public Library belongs, San Luis Obispo Public Library and Paso Robles Public Library have recently eliminated fines. Many libraries reported improvements in patron relationships with the library and increased efficiency of staff time after eliminating fees. They also reported an increase in active cardholders, and even without fines, 95% of items are still returned on time.

Eliminating fines was a key step in implementing Library Cards for Student Success, a partnership between the Library and Santa Barbara Unified School District that will allow parents or guardians to opt in so their child receives a library card automatically at enrollment. The Library hopes to expand the program to include more local districts in the coming years.

Visit the Santa Barbara Public Library System online at SBPLibrary.org for information about programs and services. All library programs are free and open to the public.

SMOKE-FREE SIGNAGE NOW BEING INSTALLED



The City is installing smoke-free signage to educate the public about its smoking law.

To educate the public about the City’s smoking law, smoke-free signage is currently being installed along sidewalks in commercial areas and parking structures. Smoking is defined to include cigarettes, electronic smoking or “vaping,” and cannabis.

In the Downtown area, the signage will be posted at every block of State Street and side streets, replacing half of the current skateboard enforcement signage. Altogether, the signage plan includes approximately 350 locations in all commercial areas of the City, including bilingual signs on the Eastside and Westside. Smoke-free areas in-

clude sidewalks, paseos, City-owned parking structures and lots, Stearns Wharf, beaches, parks, sports fields, trails, community centers, outdoor recreation facilities, outdoor library areas, and public events and festivals.

The next phase of signage in parks and beaches is planned for early 2020.

A public information campaign is also underway with a bilingual mailer and advertising in movie theaters and on social media. Signage and public education are funded by a State grant. Police Officers, Downtown Ambassadors, Park Rangers, and Harbor Patrol Officers are currently enforcing the smoking regulations. Any citations issued are infractions to violator(s) of the ordinance. To learn more, visit the City’s web page to watch a video and read frequently asked questions: SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Smoking.

WELCOME,

 DELTA

DAILY NONSTOP SERVICE
TO SALT LAKE CITY!

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DIFFERENTLY